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Youth Parliament taking center stage in the community



Last Friday evening the Aruba Youth Parliament celebrated a festive 10 year anniversary. Minister of Culture and Social Affairs, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar expressed appreciation for the prominent place

that this body has taken in our community. Aruba Youth Parliament not only grew in number of members, but especially in their presence in the community, according to the Minister.

"They have come to be seen as the representative body of all the youth on Aruba," says Hooyboer-Winklaar

The Minister credited former Minister of Social Affairs, Marisol Lopez-Tromp, for her vision and determination for instituting a Youth Parliament on Aruba ten years ago.

Special appreciation went out to all who guided the organization over the years and worked tirelessly to make it the success it is today.

The Minister mentioned that it is a pleasure to hear the testimony of different former members of the Youth Parliament; some of whom are either studying abroad or who have returned to Aruba and are employed. The youth who come out of the Youth Parliament experience always end up on the right path, and inspire others to follow their example.

The youth who join the Youth Parliament are well disciplined, with a passion and vision for what they want to achieve in life. This body has become an important one in our community. It enables our young people to let their voice heard, which is a very important development for any society.

Congratulations to our Youth Parliament on their 10th anniversary!

Aruba is a favorite destination in Maracaibo

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently did a media tour in the city of Maracaibo, Venezuela combined with a special event dedicated to the media. Partaking in this event were Miriam Dabian, director of ATA for Latin America, together with public relations representatives of the office in Venezuela, Johana Santiago and Patricia Paz. From Aruba, Sjeddy Feliciano who is in charge of the public relations of ATA also participated in the event so as to inform the Venezuelan media what Aruba has to offer as a tourist destination.



The lunch event enabled everyone to enjoy the Aruban ambience and ask questions regarding the various points of interest. Also present were members of the written press,

digital, television and radio, among others, Diario Panorama, Diario La Verdad and Global TV.

Continued on page 3

Syria dominates G8 with Russia under pressure



ENNISKILLEN - United Kingdom (AFP) -- Demonstrators from the 'IF campaign' wearing masks depicting G8 leaders protest against tax avoidance during the G8 Summit in Enniskillen, in Northern Ireland yesterday. US President Barack Obama and world leaders arrived in Northern Ireland for the G8 summit yesterday looking to put pressure on Russia to back away from its support of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Barack Obama and Vladimir Putin openly admitted having clashing views on Syria, but pledged to at least try to keep alive a frail bid to hold a peace conference in Geneva.

The US and Russian presidents faced off on the sidelines of the G8 summit in Northern Ireland, days after the White House signalled it would begin arming rebels battling President Bashar al-Assad, Moscow's top Arab ally.

Putin and Obama could not get around the fact they are backing opposite sides in the war and cannot agree on Assad's fate -- but they appeared to try to keep flagrant differences on Syria from undermining wider US-Russia relations.

The Russian leader announced that Obama would go to Moscow on September 3-4 for a full-scale summit.



WASHINGTON (AFP): Signs are placed on the ground as people calling for stricter gun laws hold their weekly protest outside the White House in Washington on June 17, 2013. The group has staged the demonstration since the Aurora, Colorado, shooting in a movie theater last July. Last week the White House pledged that it would continue to fight for tighter gun controls six months after the Newtown massacre.

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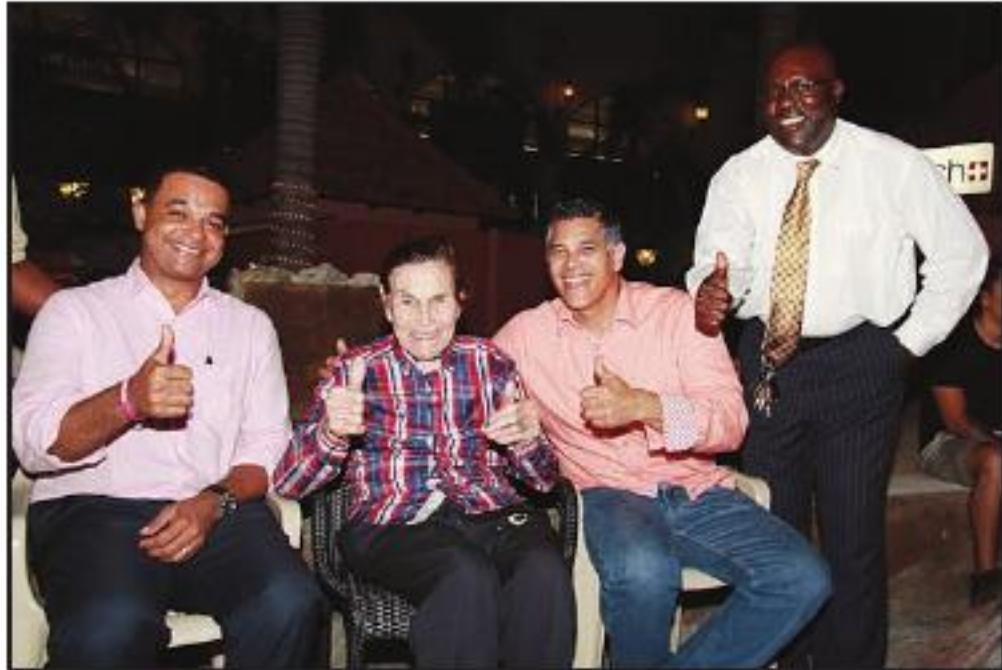
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Dad's special day means extra fun at Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall



Father of Culture meets new Haitian Consul Jeffrey Emmanuel Vincent



Free shots for all Dads and Moms



A great night for Dad and family

The management of Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall loves celebrating holidays with the island population, particularly when they are a family-oriented occasion such as Father's Day. The mall's diverse selection of eateries that line the Plaza Padu, make them perfect for dining out with Dad while enjoying the show at the centralized stage.

This year, it was Grupo Tipico Cadushi Largo who entertained shoppers and diners with their ebullient, regional program. It was a delightful, rousing evening of

the island's most joyous music, an excellent welcome to the new Haitian Consul, Jeffrey Emmanuel Vincent, who had just arrived on Aruba to establish that Caribbean nation's first diplomatic mission to Aruba.

Mr. Vincent was accompanied by Parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn, and had the opportunity to meet, most appropriately for the occasion, Aruba's "Father of Culture," Padu Lampe, for whom Paseo Herencia's central plaza is named. Padu is a regular fixture for almost all of the special evenings hosted

by the center, where the island's cultural traditions are showcased for visitors and residents, free of charge.

Though they may very likely have paid the dinner bill, fathers, with progeny of all ages, were "Kings for the Day" at Paseo. "We like to show our appreciation for all hardworking dads on their day," commented Marketing and P/R Manager Candy Rasmijn, who assisted in distributing free shots of two favorite island drinks, Ponche Creme and Cocoei, to appreciative papas.

by Rosalie Klein

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Aruba is a favorite destination...

Continued from page 1

One topic of interest to the Venezuelan media was the "One Happy Family" program which gives families the option to visit Aruba during the upcoming vacation period. During the event the different media were able to meet Aruba's mascot - BONBI - a blue lizard which is our ecological ambassador. The mascot was used to illustrate the importance of the preservation of our environment for our future generation and also to enjoy our natural resources. By using this mascot our children will get the message quicker.

What also captured the attention was the variety of activities possible both on land and at sea in Aruba; all the sports competitions such as HiWinds, Triathlon, golf, etc. They also shared information about the accessibility to reach Aruba, most important, the improvement in the quality of the Aruba product. For example, the investments in a Linear Park, beautification of the downtown area, restoration of monuments, investments in hotels, the airport and the wharf.

Venezuela has a growing and strong market for visitors who can come and enjoy what



our destination has to offer. In 2011, tourism from Venezuela numbered 13,56% of the total market, which is equal to 117,838 visitors to our island. In 2012 this has increased by 15,84% of the market share, equal to 143,201 visitors to our destination from Venezuela. As

of January to May 2013 Venezuela has produced 13,18% of all visitors coming to Aruba.

ATA has chosen the personal touch for this media tour. The personal touch always results in being so much more effective in fortifying the relationship with the media.

Island resident detected with Influenza A virus

ORANJESTAD – The Aruba Health Department (DESPA) reports an island resident has tested positive for Influenza A Virus. The individual was on a cruise trip with a group, when the person manifested flu symptoms. They were isolated and further tests confirmed him positive for the Influenza A virus. He received a treatment of Tamiflu. The other group members were also tested for the virus, but results were negative.

Influenza A virus causes influenza in birds and some mammals, and is the only species of influenza virus A. It is a genus of the Orthomyxoviridae family of viruses. Strains of all subtypes of influenza A virus have been isolated from wild birds, although disease is uncommon. Some isolates of influenza A virus cause severe disease both in domestic poultry and, rarely, in humans.

When their ship returned to Oranjestad harbor this past weekend, the Aruba Health Department was informed and is now closely monitoring the group to find out if they or their family are at risk to contract the disease. If necessary, they will receive flu vaccine and/or treatment. DESPA deems this necessary to prevent an in-

fluenza breakout on the island.

The Aruba Health Department reminds the public the urgency of taking precautions against contracting a flu infection. Whenever possible, avoid crowded enclosed spaces and close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections. Frequent hand-washing, especially after direct contact with ill persons or their environment, may reduce the risk of acquiring illness. Ill per-

sons should be encouraged to practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, wash hands). Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth and maintain a healthy lifestyle (sufficient sleep, activity, a healthy diet and frequent consumption of fluids).

For more information, contact the Aruba Health Department, Section Contagious Diseases at tel. no. 522-4222.

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David Shepherd is a big winner at Glitz Casino for Father's Day



Wife Jamie admires the ring



Jerry and Glitz Casino turn over a bag of prizes



Farah Garcia hands over 100 dollars



Aruba's newest casino, Glitz, in the La Cabana Beach Resort, has already attracted a loyal following among islanders who like to kill a little time at the slots, since they opened their doors in December of last year. They always have something special going on for the holidays, whether they are U.S. celebrations or Aruban International days that honor parents, Mother's and Father's Day, also guarantee special treatment for those special people.

This Father's Day exceptional snacks and drinks, along with a very attractive raffle just for dads, had players gathered around the tumbler while Slot Supervisor Elvereson Loefstok and Casino Hostess Farah Castro-Garcia called out the winners. Two smiling, local fathers were very pleased to receive dinners for two at Buccaneer Restaurant and Jimmy Yee's Asian Bistro, while two more were gifted with some cool cash.

The big winner of the day, however, was island visitor David Shepherd of Charlotte, North Carolina. He was nothing short of stunned when his ticket number was called to come up and accept a prize of a tasteful men's diamond and onyx ring of 18-caret white gold, from Jerry's Jewelers, located right by the bus terminal in Oranjestad. Players received raffle tickets for accumulating points in the Glitz Casino's Players Club, and spending a little time at the tables really paid off for David.

"This is just perfect," commented his wife Jamie, as she admired the masculine, but not overly large ring. "In the 15 years we have been married, David has lost his wedding ring twice, so it is great he now has this beautiful replacement."

Along with the ring the Shepherds received a bag full of useful Glitz Casino high-quality logo gear, to further help them enjoy what they consider an already very successful vacation!

Rosalie Klein



Impressive new Galeria L'America opens here



Just recently a brand new art gallery opened on Aruba. Erik Drogenbroek and his wife shared their private collection of regional art, including from Aruba, Curacao and Latin America. The new gallery, 'Galeria L'America' combines an exposition of permanent works not for sale, and works from the 17th Century up to the present time. This is a gallery and shop which makes frames for photos, paintings and other works of art.

The owners of the gallery have created a place which combines art and services to artists which makes it sustainable while creating a lovely place for art to thrive, according to the Minister of Social Affairs Michele Hooyboer-Winklaar, who was on hand to congratulate the owners on their initiative. The Minister commented on the prominent place that our local artists have in the line-up in the new Gallery, such as Elvis Tromp, Eliza Lejuez, Omaira Silva and Nelson Gonzalez. According to the Minister, there is great potential for art on Aruba. She considers this new gallery "simply impressive."

Erik Drogenbroek explained that the 'Galeria L'America' is a place where he and his wife can share their private collection with the community. As art collectors they have bought art pieces from all over the world. At a given moment their home became too small to display all of their works, hence the reason for opening the gallery. Here the community will find art works for purchase and the exposition of permanent works.

S&P downgrades Aruba sovereign credit rating to BBB-plus

Standard & Poor's on Friday downgraded Aruba's sovereign credit rating one notch to BBB-plus from A-minus, citing deteriorating fiscal and external balance sheets following closure of the island's oil refinery. The outlook on the new rating is stable.

"Closure of the Valero refinery likely led to an economic contraction of 1.2 percent of GDP in 2012. Furthermore, the closure will contribute to larger current account deficits and a higher external debt burden in the coming two years," S&P said in a statement.

A combination of the refinery plus spending pressures in health care and pensions have contributed to a weakening of the nation's public finances in recent years, S&P said.

S&P points out that rising tourism receipts, plus a public investment program providing extra economic stimulus, will help mitigate the economic impact of the refinery's closure.

"We expect real per capita GDP growth to be 1.7 percent in 2013. Planned private sector investments in the tourism sector, plus public sector investment in infrastructure, should sustain per capita GDP growth of just over 2 percent in the next two years," S&P said.

Aruba's fiscal deficits are projected to ease to 5 percent of gross domestic product in 2013 from an average of more than 6 percent in 2011-12.

Standard & Poor's is the global leader in providing ratings and credit-related services for sovereign, sovereign-supported entities and supranational issuers. Sovereign credit ratings reflect Standard & Poor's Ratings Services' opinions on the future ability and willingness of sovereign governments to service their debt obligations to the nonofficial sector in full and on time.

A sovereign credit rating is the credit rating of a sovereign entity, i.e., a national government. The sovereign credit rating indicates the risk level of the investing environment of a country and is used by investors looking to invest abroad. It takes political risk into account.

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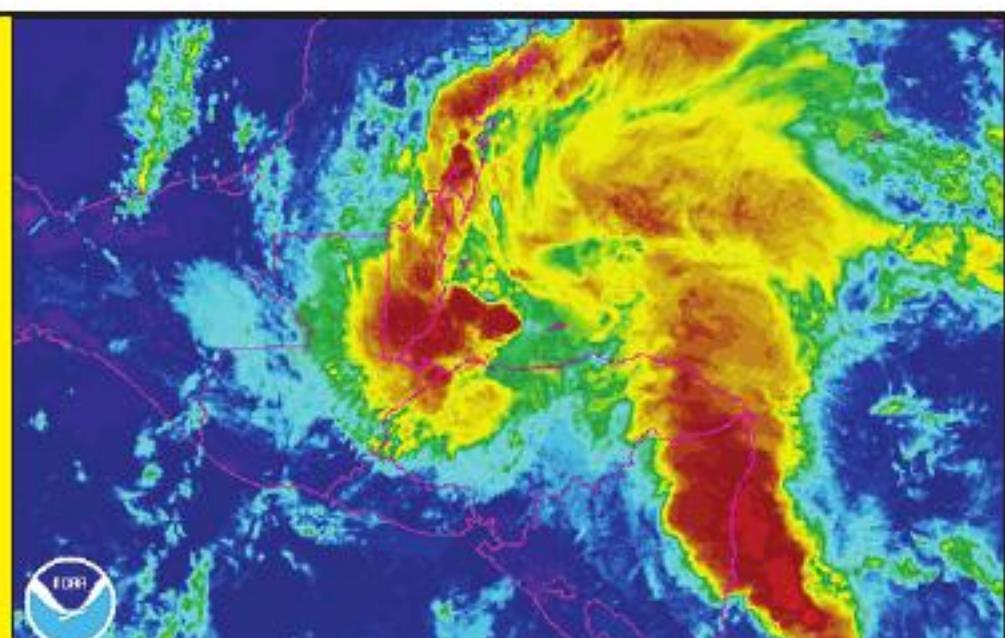
Second tropical depression spins up in the Caribbean; could become Barry

The second tropical depression (TD2) of the 2013 Atlantic Hurricane Season has spun up in the Caribbean, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) reported yesterday.

TD2 formed about 60 miles east of the coast of Belize with sustained winds of 35 mph and was moving to the west-northwest near 13 mph as of its first advisory at 11 a.m. EDT, according to the NHC.

The center of the tropical depression is expected to emerge into the Bay of Campeche and/or the extreme southwestern Gulf of Mexico today.

NHC said while little to no strengthening is anticipated, some increase in strength is possible today if the center manages to hold together when it emerges into the Bay of Campeche. If that occurs, it would become the second named storm of the season: Barry.





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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

EU, US launch talks on vast free trade deal

ENNISKILLEN (AFP) - The European Union and the United States yesterday launched long-awaited formal negotiations to create what would be the world's biggest ever free trade area.

US President Barack Obama said the first round of negotiations on a pact aimed at creating jobs and boosting the fragile global economy would take place in Washington next month.

Speaking just before the start of the G8 summit in Lough Erne, Northern Ireland, British Prime Minister David Cameron said: "We are talking about what could be the biggest bilateral deal in history."

"This is a once-in-a-generation prize and we are determined to seize it."

The process is expected to take up to two years, an ambitious target for such complex international talks.

Obama said the deal "will

support hundreds of thousands of jobs on both sides of the ocean".

"There are going to be sensitivities on both sides... but if we can look beyond the narrow concerns to stay focused on the big picture... I'm hopeful we can achieve (a deal)."

The US president said reaching an agreement "will be a priority of mine and my administration".

If a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) can be reached it would be the world's largest trade in goods between the United States and the 27-country EU last year was worth some 500 billion euros (\$670 billion), with another 280 billion euros in services and trillions in investment flows.

The EU says establishing a Free Trade Agreement would add about 119 billion euros annually to the EU economy, and 95 billion euros for the United States.

Defiant Snowden promises more leaks

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Rogue US intelligence tech Edward Snowden issued a defiant rebuke to his critics in Washington on Monday and warned more leaks were on the way, declaring: "Truth is coming and it cannot be stopped." The 29-year-old former contractor for the National Security Agency dismissed allegations he was a traitor or a Chinese agent, and insisted he had exposed a dangerous US global surveillance network that threatens the privacy of millions.

US President Barack Obama's administration has protested that the programs exposed by Snowden's leaks were vital to protecting US citizens from terrorism, but the revelations have triggered an embarrassing global debate.

Snowden, who fled last month from his job at an NSA base in Hawaii to Hong Kong carrying with him a cache of secret documents, is unrepentant, and he vowed to expose more details about how US agents spy on private emails.

"More detail on how direct NSA's accesses are is coming," he said, in an online interview hosted by The Guardian newspaper, repeating his allegation that US federal agents have access to private users' Web traffic.

The government has opened a criminal probe into Snowden's acts and partially confirmed his allegations by defending the programs to access Internet data and phone records, saying that they have thwarted dozens of terror attacks.

The degree to which US agencies have direct access to private communications stored on servers operated by private Internet giants has proved to be one of the more controversial aspects of the revelations.

US names lawyer to help close Guantanamo jail

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States yesterday appointed a lawyer as its new pointman for the tough task of trying to close down the notorious Guantanamo Bay military jail in southern Cuba.

Cliff Sloan, said to be a long-time friend of US Secretary of State John Kerry, will lead the effort which has been given new impetus since President Barack Obama last month renewed his pledge to shutter the prison.

His appointment shows the US "commitment to closing the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay," said State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki.

In one of his first acts in office in January 2009, Obama fulfilled his campaign pledge and signed an order to close the prison within a year. But after five years and already into his second term, 166 inmates remain behind bars at the US military prison in southern Cuba -- even though more than half have been cleared for release and face no

charges in the United States.

Moves to close the jail have hit numerous obstacles with the US refusing to send some inmates back to countries where they face jail or execution, and third countries being unwilling to step forward to host them.

Sloan has "a wealth of experience as an accomplished litigator and pragmatic problem-solver, a skill set that will prove valuable as he serves as the lead negotiator for the transfer of Guantanamo detainees abroad," Psaki said.

The news amid a hunger strike sweeping the jail, and as some of the relatives of 84 Yemenis being held there protested outside the US embassy in Sanaa calling for the men to be freed.

Out of the group, 56 Yeme-

nis have been cleared for release. Obama has now lifted a moratorium on sending prisoners back to the Gulf state, imposed after a Nigerian man trained in Yemen tried to detonate explosives hidden in his underwear on a flight to Detroit in the United States on Christmas Day 2009.

Obama also urged the Pentagon to designate a site on US soil to hold military tribunals for those terror suspects now at Guantanamo Bay, and said Congress must now drop efforts to thwart his closure plans.

But he did not offer a solution for inmates deemed too dangerous for release but who cannot be tried because evidence against them was obtained through coercion and may not be admissible in court.

US unveils \$300 million in new aid for Syrian refugees

ENNISKILLEN (AFP) - US President Barack Obama told G8 leaders yesterday that Washington is offering a new \$300 million aid package for refugees inside and outside Syria, a senior official said.

The new donation will bring the total of US humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees over \$800 million (600 million euros) and will include food, water and materials for shelter.

Obama's fresh aid pledge comes days after the White House made clear it was upping military support for Syrian rebels battling President Bashar al-Assad's forces, including small arms and ammunition. Previously, Washington had confined its support for Syria to non-lethal aid and humanitarian assistance.

Some 1.6 million Syrians have fled since the Syria conflict began in 2011, mostly to neighbouring nations. Another 4.25 million have been displaced within the country itself, according to the United Nations.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Belgian police seize huge drug haul as hackers tracked down

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Belgian and Dutch authorities investigating computer hacking attacks on shipping companies in the port city of Antwerp have uncovered a massive drug smuggling ring, police said yesterday.

Police seized about one ton of heroin and the same amount of cocaine after being called in by shippers whose computer systems for following container movements had been hacked by drug traffickers.

Several companies at Europe's second biggest port reported hacking attacks last year, with tracking devices put on computer terminals after break-ins or malware installed on them to gain access to information on their hard discs, the Belgian federal police said in a statement.

Being able to identify precisely the location of the containers loaded with drugs arriving in Antwerp port, the traffickers were then able to

send drivers to pick them up, they said. Links were found with criminal elements in neighbouring Holland and the authorities there were contacted.

At the end of May, police seized 250 kilograms of cocaine in a container of bananas leaving Antwerp for Holland after the discovery of 114 kilograms of the same drug in April in a cargo of wood from Chile which was landed in the Dutch port of Rotterdam.

The Belgian police said a series of raids in both countries followed, rounding up suspects and finding weapons and cash.

Two Belgians believed to be computer specialists were arrested.

At the same time, the authorities stepped up inspections of container traffic in Antwerp, leading to the seizure in late March of 864 kilograms of heroin, a record for the port and a major find by international standards, police said.

Nelson Mandela 'doing very well', daughter says

PRETORIA (AFP) - Nelson Mandela, who has been in hospital for 10 days suffering a lung infection, is "doing very well," one of his daughters said yesterday.

"He is doing very well," Zenani Mandela-Dlamini, South Africa's ambassador to Argentina, told reporters gathered outside the Pretoria hospital treating the 94-year-old Mandela.

Earlier yesterday the anti-apartheid hero's wife Graca Machel thanked the world for

its messages of support which she said had eased "the burden of anxiety."

"Our gratitude is difficult to express. But the love and peace we feel give yet more life to the simple 'Thank you!'" Machel, 67, said in a message. "So much love and generosity from South Africans, Africans across the continent, and thousands more from across the world, have come our way to lighten the burden of anxiety, bringing us



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Turkey warns it may use army to end protest unrest

ISTANBUL (AFP) - Turkey warned yesterday it may bring in the army to help quell nearly three weeks of nationwide anti-government protests as two major union federations went on strike over police violence against demonstrators.

The government raised the threat of putting soldiers on the streets after a weekend of violent clashes sparked by the eviction of campers occupying Istanbul's Gezi Park, the epicentre of the protest movement.

Police "will use all their powers" to end the unrest, Deputy Prime Minister Bülent Arınç said. "If this is not enough, we can even utilise the Turkish armed forces in cities."

The deployment of the military, the self-described guardian of the secular state, would mark an escalation of a crisis posing the biggest challenge

yet to Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Islamic-rooted government.

But after losing their focal protest site, with Gezi Park and the adjoining Taksim Square still guarded by police yesterday, the demos appeared to lose some of their intensity.

The more subdued mood was in stark contrast to the weekend, when not police fired volleys of tear gas and jets of water in hours-long running battles with thousands of protesters.

Groups of hundreds of striking workers from the KESK and DISK union federations took to the streets in Istanbul, Ankara and the western city Izmir calling for the police violence against protesters to end immediately and chanting "Erdogan, resign!" Their progress was at times blocked by offi-

cers backed by water cannon trucks but there were no reports of fresh clashes.

The unions' turnout was smaller than when they marched in support of the demonstrators on June 5. After the members dispersed in Istanbul in the evening, some 300 youngsters clashed briefly with police who fired tear gas, water and rubber bullets.

Turkey's crisis began when a sit-in to save Gezi's 600 trees from being razed in a redevelopment project prompted a brutal police response on May 31, spiralling into nationwide demonstrations against Erdogan, seen as increasingly authoritarian.

So far four people have been killed and nearly 7,500 people injured, according to the Turkish Medical Association (TBB).

Early monsoon hits India

Indian people look at a collapsed road and the flooded river in the northern state of Uttarakhand on June 17, 2013. Heavy rains lashed parts of north India June 17, resulting in the deaths of at least 26 people, as the annual monsoon covered the country nearly two weeks ahead of schedule, officials said. (AFP PHOTO)

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Health & Living

Study finds weak brain connections in autistic children



sity.

Researchers took magnetic resonance imaging brain scans of 20 children with a high-functioning type of autism; they had normal range IQs and could speak and read, but had a hard time in conversation or understanding emotional cues.

By comparing the scans to those of 19 children without autism, they found that the brains of youngsters with autism showed poor connections to brain regions that release dopamine in response to rewards.

On the left side of the brain, the autistic children showed weak connections to the nucleus accumbens and the ventral tegmental area.

And on the right side, in the voice-selective cortex where vocal cues and pitch are detected, there was a weak connection to the amygdala, which processes emotional cues.

Researchers also found that weaker connections meant worse communication abilities.

"The human voice is a

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Some children with autism have weak brain connections in regions that link speech with emotional rewards, possibly signaling a new pathway in treatment, researchers said Monday.

The study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences is the first to suggest that the reason why children with autism display an insensitivity to human speech may be linked to faulty circuitry in the brain's reward centers.

"Weak brain connectivity may impede children with autism from experiencing speech as pleasurable," said Vinod Menon, senior author of the study and professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Stanford University.

very important sound; it not only conveys meaning but also provides critical emotional information to a child," said lead author Daniel Abrams, a postdoctoral scholar in psychiatry at Stanford.

"We are the first to show that this insensitivity may originate from impaired reward circuitry in the brain."

The findings also give weight to the theory that people with autism have a deficit in social motivation that explains their inattention to voices and words, rather than a sensory deficit that prevents them from hearing words.

"It is likely that children with autism don't attend to voices because they are not rewarding or emotionally interesting, impacting the development of their language and social communication skills," Menon said.

"We have discovered an aberrant brain circuit underlying a core deficit in autism; our findings may aid the development of new treatments for this disorder."

NASA announces eight new astronauts, half are women



NASA's 2013 astronaut class top from left to right, Josh Cassada, Victor Glover, Tyler Hague and Christina Hammock; bottom row, left to right, Nicole Mann, Anne McClain, Jessica Meir and Andrew Morgan

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US space agency announced the appointment of eight new astronauts on Monday, and a record half of NASA's first astronaut class since 2009 are women.

The astronauts will earn between \$64,000 and \$141,000 per year, and will be part of the team that lays the groundwork for NASA missions to an asteroid in the 2020s and to Mars in the 2030s, NASA administrator Charles Bolden said.

"This new class will be among those who have the opportunity to plan and carry

out these exciting missions," said Bolden in a video message on the NASA website.

The eight were chosen from the second largest pool of applications ever received -- over 6,100 -- NASA said.

Among them are Nicole Aunapu Mann, 35, a Marine Corps major and F/A 18 pilot, and Anne McClain, 34, a major in the US Army and OH-58 helicopter pilot.

The others are Jessica Meir, 35, an assistant professor of anesthesia at Harvard Medical School and Christina Hammock, 34, who is National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Station Chief in American Samoa.

The male astronaut candidates are former naval aviator Josh Cassada, 39; Navy lieutenant commander and F/A 18 pilot Victor Glover, 37; Tyler Hague, 37, a US Air Force colonel working to tackle improvised explosive devices; and Andrew Morgan, 37, an army major and physician of emergency medicine.

The last class announced in 2009 included three women. The group of astronauts named in 1998 also included four women, but out of a larger hired group of 25.

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Saudi announces four new deaths from MERS virus

RIYADH (AFP) - Four more people have died from the MERS virus in Saudi Arabia, bringing the death toll from the SARS-like virus in the kingdom to 32, the health ministry said Monday. Two people died in the western city of Taif and the other two were pronounced dead in Eastern Province, where most cases have been registered, the ministry said on its website. The ministry announced three more confirmed cases of people in Saudi Arabia infected with the virus, which the World Health Organisation has dubbed the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus, or MERS. The ministry said the total number of MERS infections in the kingdom now stood at 49, including the 32 fatalities. Cases have also been found in France, Germany, Italy, Tunisia and Britain, though mainly concerning patients transferred there for care from the Middle East or who had travelled to the Middle East and become ill after they returned, WHO said.



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Sci-Tech

China super-computer world's fastest: report

BEIJING (AFP) - A Chinese supercomputer is the fastest in the world, according to survey results announced Monday, comfortably overtaking a US machine which now ranks second.

Tianhe-2, a supercomputer developed by China's National University of Defense Technology, achieved processing speeds of 33.86 petaflops (1000 trillion calculations) per second on a benchmarking test, earning it the number one spot in the Top 500 survey of supercomputers.

The tests show the machine is by far the fastest computer ever constructed. Its main rival, the US-designed Titan, had achieved a performance of 17.59 petaflops per second, the survey's website said.

Five of the world's 10 fastest computers are installed in the US, the survey said, with the two in China, two in Germany and one in Japan.

Unlike some of its Chinese predecessors, most of the Tianhe-2's parts are developed in China, except for its main processors, which are designed by US firm Intel.

Robot that runs like a cat springs to life in Switzerland



GENEVA (AFP) - Swiss researchers said Monday they have created a small four-legged, high-speed robot that runs like a cat in a bid to create a new breed of robots for use in search and rescue operations.

Researchers added that the "cheetah-cub robot," the size of a small house cat or cheetah cub, moves as fast as an adult human walking briskly. It is "the fastest in its category (of) small quadruped robots under 30 kilos (66 pounds)," the EPFL technical university in Lausanne said in a statement.

The robot recorded a maximum speed of 1.42 metres (4.65 feet) per second, corresponding to 5.1 kilometres (3.1 miles) per hour.

"This is a good walking speed for an adult human," one of the researchers on the project, Alexander Sprowitz,

told AFP in an email.

The robot's metallic frame is 20.5 centimetres (eight inches) long and 16 centimetres high and weighs 1.1 kilogrammes (2.42 pounds).

The robot, which was featured Monday in the International Journal of Robotics Research, has a tail but no head, yet is easily recognisable as modelled on a cat due to its gait.

"Its particularity is the design of its legs, which make it very fast and stable," EPFL said, pointing out that the purpose of building the robot was to encourage research in biomechanics.

The "cheetah cub" was not yet as agile as a real cat, but "still has excellent auto-stabilisation characteristics when running at full speed or over a course that included disturbances such as small steps," it stressed.

Most coal must stay in ground to save climate: report

SYDNEY (AFP) - Most fossil fuels must remain in the ground because burning them will unleash changes which will "challenge the existence of our society", a new Australian government agency report warned Monday.

The Climate Commission study found that the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, a key Australian export, represented the most significant contributor to climate change.

"Burning all fossil fuel reserves would lead to unprecedented changes in climate so severe that they will challenge the existence of our society as we know it today," said the report, The Critical Decade.

"It is clear that most fossil fuels must be left in the ground and cannot be burned."

Most nations, including Australia, have agreed that the risks of the climate changing beyond two degrees Celsius are unacceptably high.

But to ensure the climate is stabilised, the world must "virtually decarbonise", the report said.

"In order to achieve that goal of stabilising the climate at two degrees or less, we simply have to leave about 80 percent of the world's fossil fuel reserves in the ground," report co-author Lesley

Hughes told state broadcaster ABC.

"We cannot afford to burn them and still have a stable and safe climate."

The report noted a recent resurgence in the discovery and exploitation of new reserves of fossil fuels in Australia and elsewhere, including new coal fields as well as coal-seam gas and shale oil.

Australia's coal reserves alone represent about 51 billion tonnes of potential carbon dioxide emissions, or around one-twelfth of the 600 billion tonnes which, if emitted, are thought would push temperatures above the two degrees Celsius threshold, it said.

The independent Climate Commission, established by the government in 2011 to provide authoritative information on climate change, called for an immediate slowdown in carbon emissions.

"Growth in the use of coal will need to be turned around, so that it makes up a much smaller proportion of the global energy mix and eventually not used at all," it said.

Will Steffen, a fellow co-author of the report, said action was needed immediately because many of the climate change risks scientists had warned of for years were now happening.

CO MICS

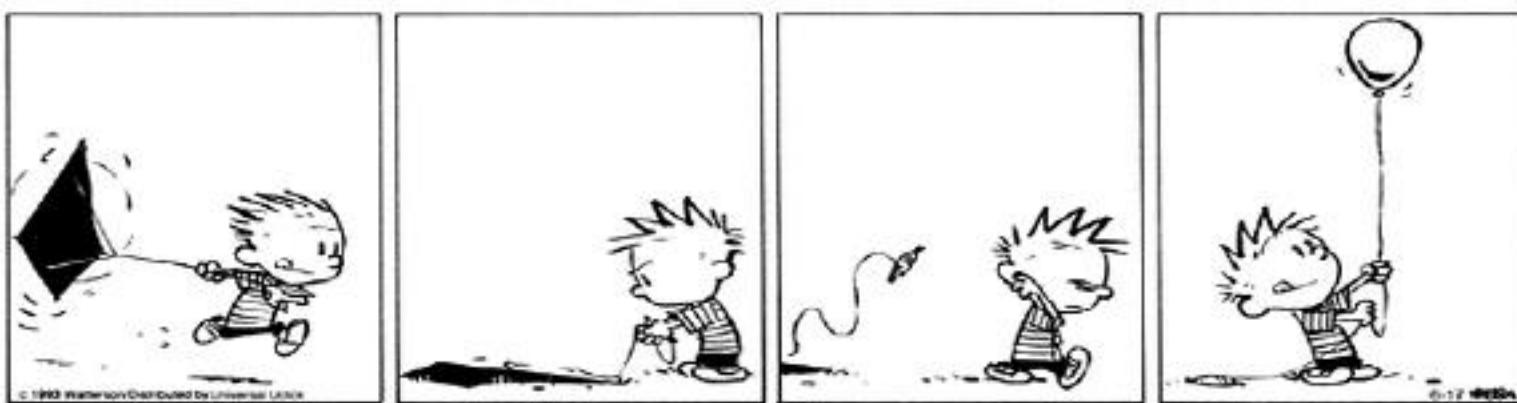
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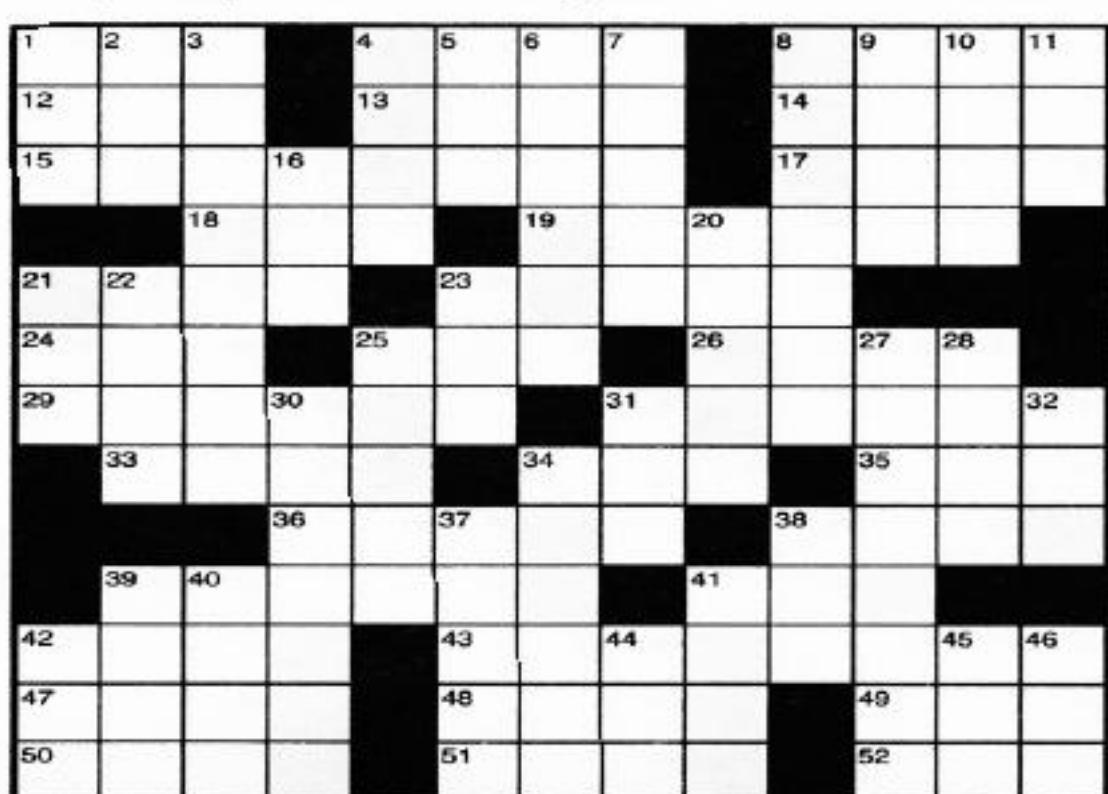


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ACROSS

1. ___ into (thrash)
4. Producer Mike
8. Tobacco holder
12. "___ live and breathe!" (2 wds.)
13. Protagonist
14. Emulate a nomad
15. Nomad
17. Has a deed
18. 007 creator Fleming
19. Auto safety feature (2 wds.)



wds.)
 21. Catches
 23. Ford lemon
 24. Inventor Whitney
 25. Reply (abbr.)
 26. "___ Smile Be Your Umbrella" (2 wds.)
 29. Riding on two wheels
 31. Twins of the zodiac
 33. Wait on
 34. Gym pad
 35. Fabled bird
 36. Maple product
 38. Actress Russo
 39. Rackets
 41. Ency. unit
 42. Strong attachment
 43. In a dignified

manner
 47. One Great Lake
 48. Before Wed.
 49. Adriatic, e.g.
 50. Creates edging
 51. Captain Hook's pirate
 52. Drench

DOWN
 1. Legal ruling
 2. Smart ___ whip (2 wds.)
 3. Pint-sized cycle
 4. Thereafter
 5. Over, poetically
 6. Has great trepidation
 7. Actress Roberts

8. Something to be solved
 9. Where Des Moines is
 10. Conscience nudge
 11. "Oz" aunt et al.
 16. Courtroom figures (abbr.)
 20. Lease again
 21. Dick Cavett's home st.
 22. Touched ground
 23. London's locale (abbr.)
 25. Rooney and Williams
 27. Having endless pep
 28. Presently
 30. Interior parts
 31. Cumberland

32. Solid water
 34. Exhibition building
 37. Musical silences
 38. Disintegrate
 39. Writer Roberts
 40. "Put a lid ___!" (2 wds.)
 41. Bouquet holder
 42. Wager money
 44. Low grade
 45. MGM's lion
 46. Bark, Chihuahua-style

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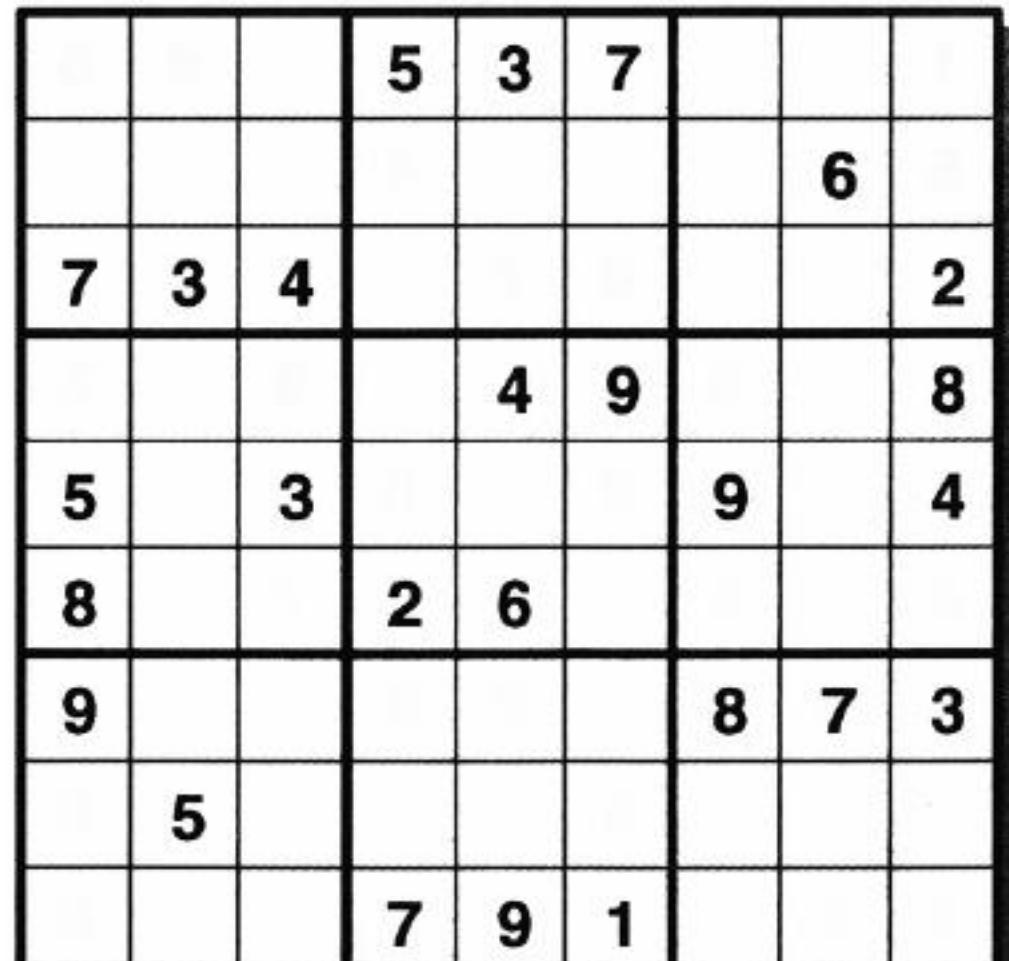
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

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4	5	6	5	4	3	1	9	6
9	1	2	6	5	7	3	1	8
8	4	9	1	7	3	6	2	5
5	6	3	4	9	6	5	8	7
2	7	1	4	8	1	6	5	2
7	3	4	8	2	3	6	7	1
1	9	5	4	3	6	8	2	9
6	2	8	5	3	4	1	9	7

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
 A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
 In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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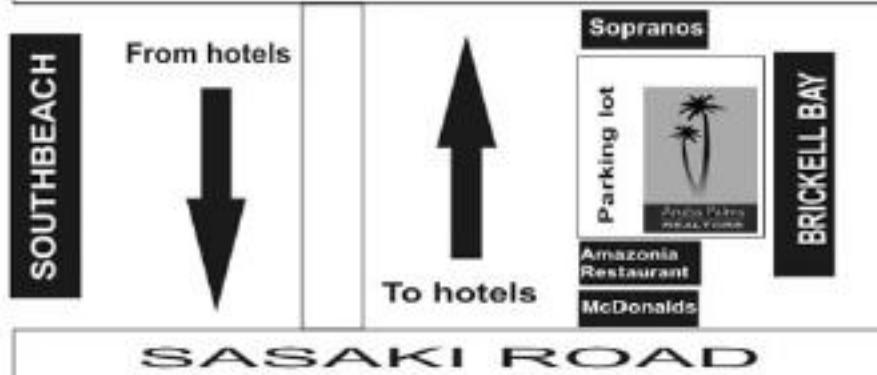
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Finance

WTO urges Caribbean to take advantage of trade opportunities

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti — Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Pascal Lamy has urged developing countries to ensure they have the necessary trade capacity to take advantage of a changing global environment.

"We must translate the 'trade can' into the 'trade has' by ensuring developing countries have built the necessary trade capacity. And this is what Aid for Trade is about: helping transform trade opportunities into trade realities," he said during a recent launch of the Caribbean Regional Aid for Trade (AFT) Strategy.

Aid for Trade refers to the flow of development finance from developed countries and multilateral funding agencies to developing countries to enhance their participation in the multilateral trading system.

The Caribbean Strategy, which was developed with the assistance of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), aims to create consensus within Caribbean Community (Caricom) on priorities for ensuring growth

and a more diversified regional economy.

It presents a coherent approach to obtaining funding and provides a framework for collaboration among Caricom member states and international development partners (IDPs) or investors with an interest in providing support for the Region's development.

The IDB, along with the International Trade Centre, the WTO and the Caribbean Export Development Agency all have collaborated with the Caricom Secretariat for the launch of the strategy under the theme "Turning Market Access Into Market Presence".

"There are tremendous opportunities for increasing the role of trade in the region's growth strategy," Lamy said, noting that the outlook for growth in Latin America and the Caribbean is around 3.5% for 2013, slightly up from three percent last year.

"But for the Caribbean, high debt and weak competitiveness will constrain growth leading to projections of around 1.25% in 2013," he added.

S&P downgrades Venezuela

(AFP) - Standard & Poor's cut Venezuela's credit rating one notch to "B" yesterday citing the first post-Hugo Chavez government's lack of action on the deteriorating economy.

The downgrade "reflects the government's diminishing ability to implement measures to reverse declining GDP growth, rising inflation, and weakening external liquidity in the context of growing political disagreements within the administration," S&P analyst Sebastian Briozzo said.

The previous rating, B+, already characterized Venezuelan debt as "highly speculative" or junk status.

Oranjestad, Aruba —



Current as of: 06/17/2013	Currency code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.73	1.75	1.77
Britain	GBP	2.74	2.79	2.85
Switzerland	CHF	192.85	193.57	194.37
Netherlands	EUR	235.39	237.54	239.93
Sweden	SEK	26.60	27.32	28.12
Denmark	DKK	30.89	31.61	32.41
Norway	NOK	30.15	30.87	31.67
Japan	JPY	186.29	187.99	189.87

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Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson on "Building a Better Community with Corporate Social Innovation"



ORANJESTAD — The need to nurture and structure corporate social innovation as a means of building a better community was the common thread of the Social Economic Council SER symposium, "Innovate or deteriorate: Corporate Social Responsibility as the way forward for St. Maarten," that was held at The Westin St. Maarten Dawn Beach Resort and Spa.

Keynote speaker Professor Ryan Peterson, who is Professor of Innovation Economics at University of Aruba, said, "The quality of life of citizens has a direct impact on the visitor experience." This thought applies to the need for structured corporate social innovation (CSI) wherein businesses contribute in a structured way to improving the community, thus benefiting the tourism product and economy. Small island tourism economies cannot neglect the role and responsibility of both business and community in providing excellence in tourism, especially in an era of increased competition and quality demands by visitors. This culture needs to be nurtured by the island economies that are "dominated by small businesses to guarantee their growth."

CSI is more than just writing a cheque or printing T-shirts; it requires businesses to become hands-on in the communities they serve through relationships and being responsible, especially with respect to the social and natural environment, Peterson said.

However, CSI is not seen as a strategic priority in the Caribbean, as many businesses are busy trying to stay alive, he said, pointing out that the region consists of more than 80 per cent small and medium-size enterprises. CSI in the Caribbean is faced with companies' lack of awareness and urgency.

Those companies tend to focus only on immediate image creation and giving through ad hoc donations in an unstructured form, in a reactionary rather than proactive manner, Peterson explained.

CSI is, therefore, "integral to the success of companies and essential for a country's sustainable development." The Caribbean, in this regard, is "lagging behind", and often times remains unrelated to national goals for development.

A panel discussion on the theme followed Peterson's presentation. Panellists, including Peterson, were Budget Marine founder/Director Rob-

bie Ferron, Harbour Group CEO Mark Mingo, Voice of Our Children Foundation Secretary Lucrecia Lynch and SER Chairman Rene Richardson.

Regarding the keynote speaker, Prime Minister Sarah Wescot-Williams proudly concluded that "if one wonders what our parents and grandparents from St. Maarten were doing when they moved to the other islands of the Dutch Caribbean, it is my opinion that they were actually preparing to provide those islands with technical assistance using our resources." Her comment was related to Peterson's Simpson Bay heritage. His grandfather was a fisherman from the village.

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Superman reboot 'Man of Steel' soars over US box office


rating on the movie review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, with many complaining of an over-reliance on computer-generated imagery.

Another new film, "This Is The End," a comedy starring James Franco and Jonah Hill, opened in second place with \$20.7 million, figures from the industry tracker Exhibitor Relations showed.

Sleeper hit "Now You See Me," about an FBI agent and an Interpol detective who hunt down a team of illusionists performing bank heists during their shows, held on to third place with \$11 million.

Action sequel "Fast & Furious 6," starring Vin Diesel and Michelle Rodriguez, added another \$9.6 million, taking its outright haul to \$219.7 million and positioning it in fourth place.

Low-budget horror film "The Purge" -- which scored a surprisingly strong opening last week to top the box office -- fell to fifth place with \$8.3 million.

However, the \$3 million Universal feature starring Ethan Hawke and "Game of Thrones" star Lena Headey has now earned a total of \$52 million, with a sequel already in the works, according to industry reports.

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Superman blockbuster "Man of Steel" soared to the top of the North American box office this weekend, scoring a \$116.6-million opening despite mixed reviews, figures showed Monday.

The Zach Snyder-directed movie stars British actor Henry Cavill as the iconic superhero, with Oscar-nominated actress Amy Adams playing Daily Planet journalist Lois Lane in a cast that also includes Russell Crowe, Kevin Costner and Diane Lane.

The production is the latest attempt to build a money-spinning franchise around the planet Krypton's most famous son, and follows a 2006 reboot by Warner Bros -- "Superman Returns" -- which ultimately stalled after one film.

Snyder's movie has divided critics however, scoring a modest 56 percent



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--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walis are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie, so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice



Gouda burger 2

beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeno peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by

two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

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SPORTS

Soldado says Spain must find goal-den touch



Spain forward Roberto Soldado savours his goal against Uruguay

RECIFE (AFP) - With one-time golden boy Fernando Torres benched it was left to a less-heralded Spanish striker, Roberto Soldado, to show that the world champions still know where the net is.

It was his goal that cemented a 2-1 Confederations Cup win over Uruguay on Sunday.

Spain's possession-based "tiki-taka" style is designed to frustrate the best of opponents: you can't score if you don't have the ball.

So with 71 percent of the possession - a staggering 92 percent in the opening stages - the world and European champions should have won by a country mile.

Yet Luis Suarez's late free kick reduced the margin to a meagre 2-1.

And that prompted Soldado to admit that Spain, for all the intricate passing patterns they weave, do need to concentrate more on going for the jugular - or in future risk possibly drawing matches they ought to win.

That strategy would be a risky business in the knock-out stages. The lottery of penalties would then come into play, potentially undermining their chances of making it four tournament wins on the trot after the 2010 World Cup and the past two editions of the European Championships.

"They were difficult opponents - they were always

keeping the pressure on and trying to close us down," said Valencia forward Soldado. His goal on 32 minutes ultimately clinched the win after Diego Lugano had deflected Pedro's early effort for the Spanish opener.

At that stage, the floodgates looked certain to open, but despite their wonderful approach play the Spanish just could not hit the target thereafter. Soldado acknowledges that superiority has to be rubbed in in terms of goals - not possession.

Tens of thousands protest Confed Cup costs in Brazil

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Tens of thousands of people took to the streets of major Brazilian cities Monday protesting the billions of dollars spent on the Confederations Cup and higher public transport costs, police said.

FIFA Confed. Cup			
	GF	GA	PTS
Group A			
Brazil	3	0	3
Italy	2	1	3
Mexico	1	2	0
Japan	0	3	0
Group B			
Nigeria	6	1	3
Spain	2	1	3
Uruguay	1	2	0
Tahiti	1	6	0



Nigeria swamp Tahiti in Confed Cup opener



Nigerian players celebrate

BELO HORIZONTE, (AFP) - Nnamdi Oduamadi claimed a hat-trick as Nigeria shook off the jet lag to thrash minnows Tahiti 6-1 in their opening Confederations Cup game in Belo Horizonte on Monday.

The African champions only arrived in Brazil 36 hours before the game after a row over bonus payments, but they could even afford some wasteful finishing as they leapfrogged world champions Spain to the top of Group B.

It was a predictably chastening experience for Tahiti, ranked 138th in the world, but they were nonetheless able to celebrate when Jonathan Tehau headed in their first ever goal at a high-profile international event.

Tehau's goal, early in the second half, trimmed Nigeria's lead to 3-1 after a deflected Uwa Echiejile shot and a pair of goals from Oduamadi had put Nigeria in command.

However, the south Pacific islanders' hopes of a famous comeback were dashed as Tehau put through his own goal before Oduamadi and Echiejile added further goals to give Stephen Keshi's men a spring in their step ahead of Thursday's crucial showdown with Uruguay.

"It was a little bit difficult to up our game," said Nigeria coach Keshi.

"When you know you're playing against, with all due respect, the Tahiti team, you think everything's easy. They showed us that they can play football."

Congratulations to them."

There were only 20,187 people in attendance at the newly renovated Estadio Mineirao but they were vocal in their support of Tahiti, who were granted a standing ovation at the end of the game.

"I'm very proud of the team, who fought to the end," Marama Vahirua, Tahiti's only professional player, told Brazilian television.

"We came here with the goal of winning the hearts of the fans. The Brazilian public has adopted us and it makes us very happy."

After the ball bounced off referee Joel Aguilar, Echiejile launched a speculative shot that deflected off Tehau and captain Nicolas Vellar and ricocheted past Tahiti goalkeeper Xavier Samin.

Oduamadi added two more, neatly side-stepping a pair of challenges and sweeping home in the 10th minute, before tapping in his second when Samin spilled a low cross from Ahmed Musa.

Nigeria made heavy work of putting the game to bed though, with Musa, Anthony Ujah and Sunday Mbai all failing to convert glaring opportunities before the goal that Tahiti had been threatening arrived in the 54th minute.

The honour fell to Tehau, who headed in a deep corner kick from Vahirua at the back post and then led his ecstatic team-mates in a canoe-paddling celebration.

authorities would not allow the protests to disrupt international football tournaments Brazil has pledged to host -- the Confederations Cup and next year's World Cup.

"The government assumed

the responsibility and the honor to stage these two international events and will do so, ensuring the security and integrity of the fans and tourists," he said.



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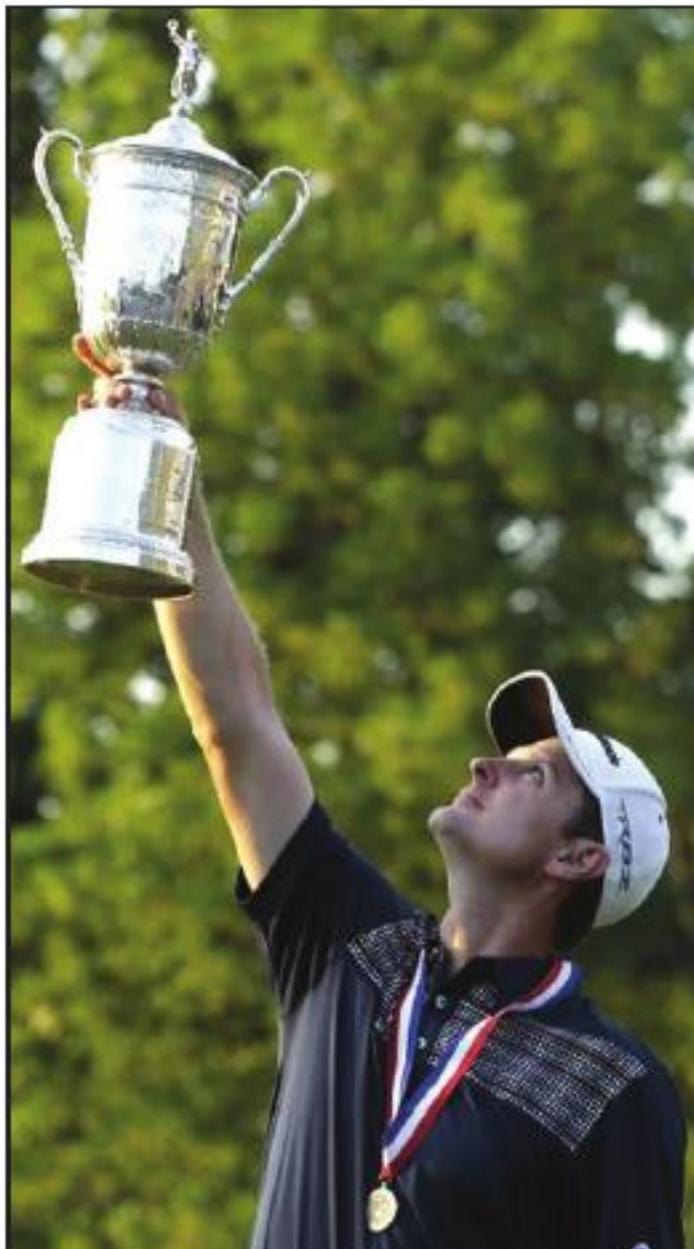
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Road to success for Rose was a hard one

ARDMORE (AFP) - Justin Rose completed the long and, at times, painful journey from boy wonder to failed pro and then on to major winner at the US Open on Sunday.

The 32-year-old Englishman held his nerve down Merion Golf Club's testing home stretch to win his first major title by two strokes from Phil Mickelson and Jason Day on a day of high drama.

He then spoke of the doubts and heartaches he had endured to get to this stage of his life when it all came together in spectacular fashion.



Rose with the US Open trophy

Rose first entered the spotlight when he finished in a tie for fourth as an amateur teen at the 1998 British Open at Royal Birkdale.

He turned professional immediately afterwards, but he endured what he called "a traumatic start" to his career, missing the cut in the first 21 tournaments he took part in.

His father and coach, Ken Rose, then died when Rose was just 21 and he was left alone to try and claw his way back up the ladder.

Slowly but surely, he succeeded, winning the 2007 European Order of Merit title and notching up regular wins on the US PGA Tour.

But it was a win in one of the four majors that was the priority for him and after a few near misses, notably at

last year's PGA Championship when he tied for third, he finally came good at Merion.

"When I was missing 21 cuts in a row, I was just trying to not fade away, really," he said.

"I just didn't want to be known as a one hit wonder -- flash in the pan."

"Definitely I have had the ups and down, but I think that ultimately it has made me stronger and able to handle the situations like today."

Influences there have been for Rose over the years, starting with his father, who Rose spoke emotionally about on what was Father's Day, and Sean Foley, the coach he currently shares with Tiger Woods.

"At 32 we have been around quite a while. We paid our dues in some senses."

Rose was also proud of becoming the first Englishman since Tony Jacklin 43 years ago to win the US Open and the first since Nick Faldo at the Masters 17 years ago to win a major.

He now hopes his win will open the door for the likes of close friends and compatriots Luke Donald, Ian Poulter, Paul Casey and Lee Westwood -- none of whom have to date won a major.

"I really hope it does inspire them. And I think it was always going to be a matter of time before one of us broke through," he said.



VS.



NBA FINALS

(Series best-of-seven)

Game 1: SAS 92, MIA 88 (Spurs lead 1-0)

Game 2: MIA 103, SAS 84 (Series tied 1-1)

Game 3: SAS 113, MIA 77 (Spurs lead 2-1)

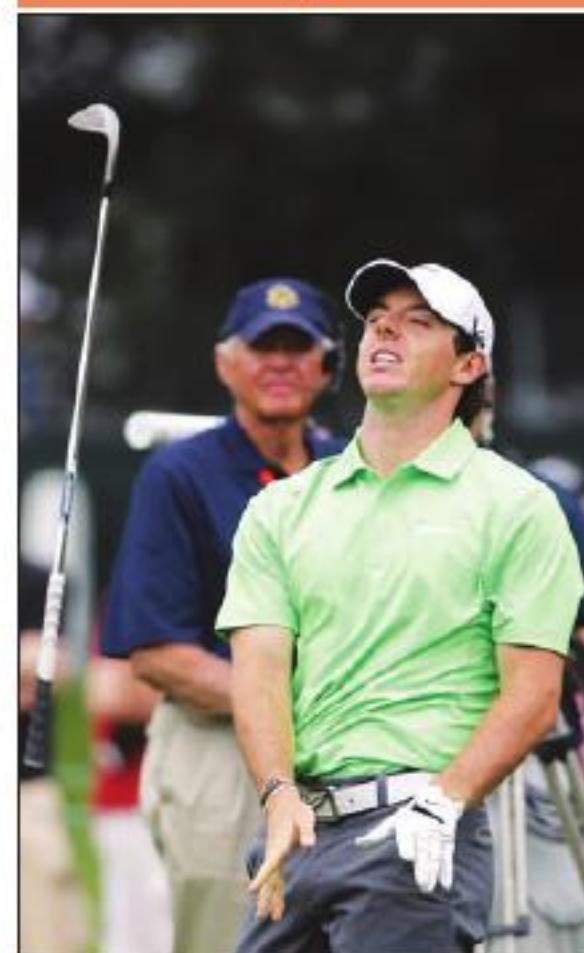
Game 4: MIA 109, SAS 93 (Series tied 2-2)

Game 5: SAS 114, MIA 104 (Spurs lead 3-2)

Game 6: Jun 18 - 9 - pm EDT @MIA

Game 7: Jun 20 - 9 pm EDT @MIA

McIlroy takes it out on club at US Open



the 11th hole at Merion Golf Club after hitting a bad shot.

He stabbed the offending iron into the ground and bent it out of shape before bending it again over his leg.

It was not helpful to his round, as that meant he had one less club in the bag at his disposal, and presumably not helpful to the image of Nike clubs.

Yes it was one of those Nike clubs that they have paid \$200 million to sponsor.

McIlroy insists that there is no major problem with the new clubs and that he is not that far away from feeling 100 percent confident with them, but looking back he does admit he would have done things a little differently.

"The thing about new equipment, you can stand on the range all you want and hit balls, but you really need to test it on the course. And that's something I didn't do at the start of the year," he said.

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Omega Pharma pin Tour hopes on Cavendish

PARIS (AFP) - British sprint great Mark Cavendish will spearhead Belgian team Omega Pharma's hopes for stage wins in the upcoming Tour de France after they announced their team line-up on Monday for the race that begins on June 29.

Cavendish, who has won 23 stages in the Tour since 2008, will rely on his faithful lieutenant Gert Steegmans to set him up for stage victories in the three week race.

The team's target for the 28-year-old Isle of Man born Cavendish is a big one from the outset.

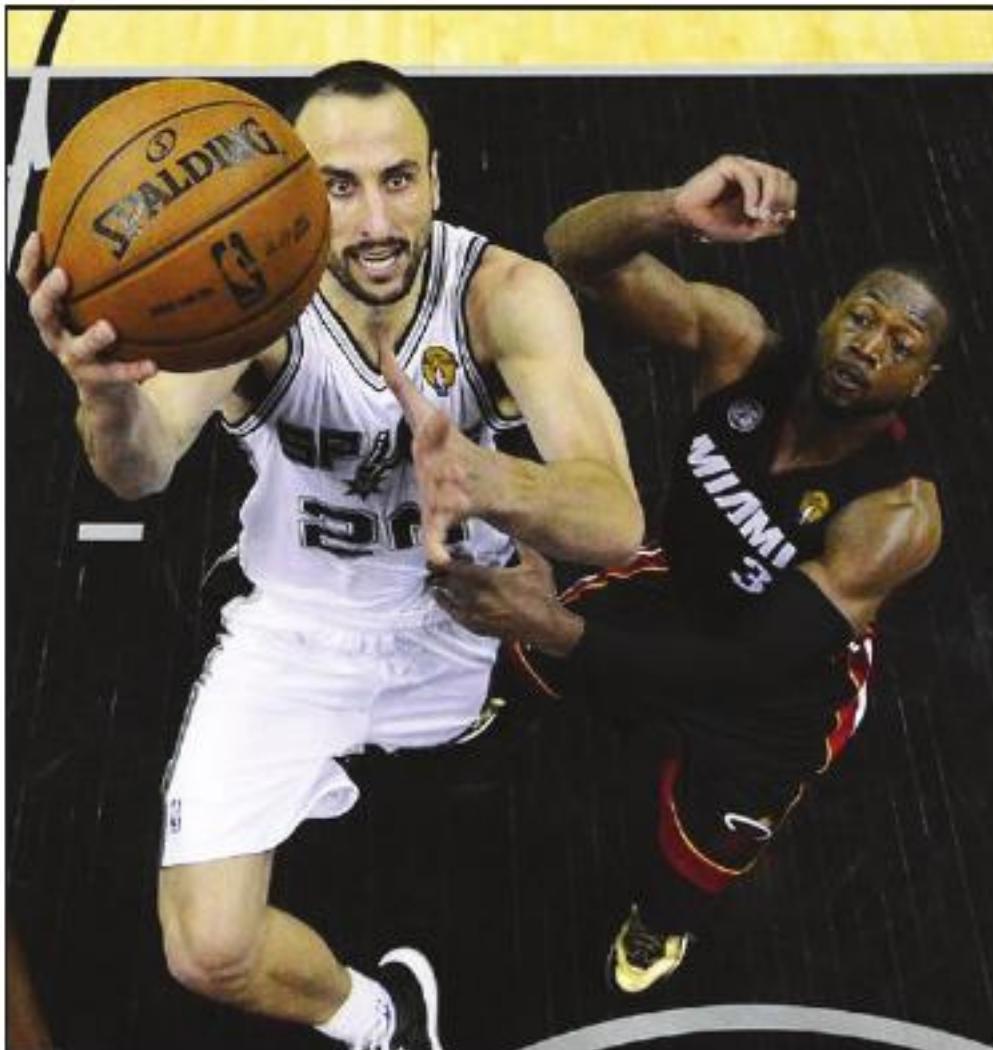
"One of the principal goals is for him to don the yellow jersey after the first stage," said a team director.

Omega Pharma will also have high hopes that world time-trial champion Tony Martin will also collect stage wins in the time-trial legs.

"We have for sure one of the best teams," said team manager Patrick Lefevere.

"Mark can count on a strong group built around him. For the team it will also be important to show their class at every opportunity."

Spurs on brink of another NBA title



San Antonio Spurs' Manu Ginobili (20), of Argentina, shoots as Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade defends during GM5

SAN ANTONIO (AFP) - The San Antonio Spurs moved within one victory of a fifth NBA title Sunday by beating the Miami Heat 114-104 behind a game-high 26 points from Tony Parker and 24 from Danny Green.

The Spurs seized a 3-2 lead and can wrap up the best-of-seven series against

the reigning champion Heat with a victory tonight in Miami.

The Spurs came out swinging in game five, jumping out to a quick 8-4 lead and never trailing in front of a crowd of 18,581 at the AT&T Center. Their lead ballooned to as many as 20 in the fourth quarter.

Of the previous 27 times the finals have been tied 2-2, the winner of game five has gone on to win the series 20 times.

Green went six-of-10 from beyond the arc to set an NBA finals record with 25 three pointers so far. He recorded his record setting 23rd three pointer of the series -- to break Ray Allen's previous mark -- with a 25-foot bomb with 9:40 left in the third to make it 66-59.

Green also helped seal the win with a late three pointer from the right side to make it 114-101 with 1:06 left in regulation.

Manu Ginobili finished with 24 points and 10 assists as all five Spurs starters scored in double figures.

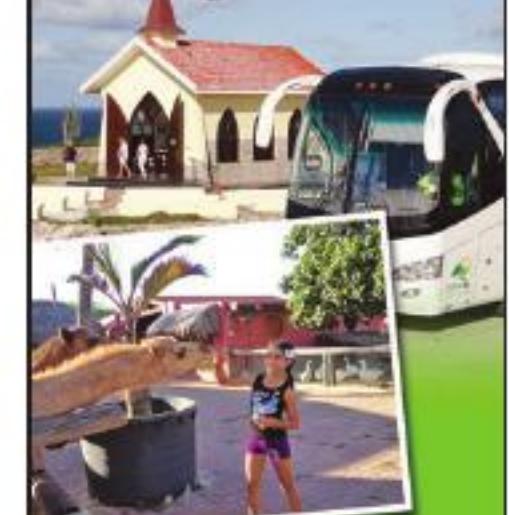
Dwyane Wade and LeBron James had 25 points apiece for the Heat, who once again failed to win back-to-back games after taking game four in San Antonio.

"We're in a position where it's a must-win and everything that we've done all year comes to this point, and we have to win," Heat guard Ray Allen said. "We've found ourselves in so many situations this year, and we've thrived in tough moments because this is a tough team. We will be ready for Game 6."

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Tigers' Hunter hits 300th career homer

MINNEAPOLIS (AFP) - Torii Hunter belted his 300th career home run on Sunday to help the Detroit Tigers notch a 5-2 Major League Baseball triumph over the Minnesota Twins. Hunter added an RBI double to go with his milestone homer, a two-run blast in the first inning.

Tigers pitcher Doug Fister threw 7 2/3 strong innings, taking a no-hitter into the sixth and giving up just two hits and two runs while posting seven strikeouts.

"For me to be a part of (Hunter's milestone), it's such an honor for me," Fister said.

P.J. Walters surrendered the homer to Hunter, who powered a 2-0 pitch from Walters into the left-field seats.



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